



AUGUST TIP SAVINGS: Up to \$400/YR

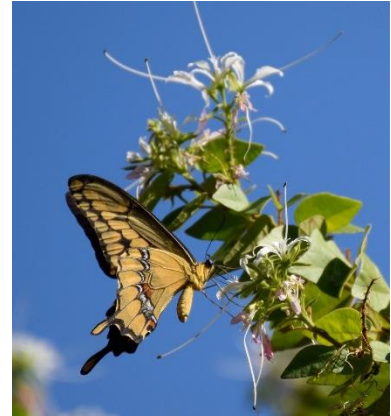
Avoided Emissions of CO₂: Up to 1,200 lbs./YR

\$USTAINABILITY \$AVINGS TIP

INVITING WILDLIFE TO YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Create a wildlife-friendly landscape to help restore lost habitat

You hear about Monarch butterfly populations being on the decline and bees disappearing due to colony collapse disorder. Even many of our song birds are experiencing downward trends in population. Is there anything you can do to help? Fortunately, yes! Pollinators and birds worldwide are in decline due to habitat loss, invasive species, parasites and pesticides. Whether you have an apartment patio, a residential yard, a school garden, golf course or common area, you can create a wildlife-friendly garden or landscape that helps restore habitat.



✂ BASICS

Provide food such as native plants and flowers, shallow water sources, cover such as trees and shrubs and a place for wildlife to raise their young. For butterflies, as an example, this would mean specific plants for caterpillars to feed upon.

✂ LEARN WILDLIFE NEEDS

Many local organizations provide assistance. Did you know that the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center is located at 3131 S. Central Avenue in Phoenix? Stop by to get their newly published brochure titled "Native Plants for Hummingbirds."

✂ EASE UP ON CLEANUP

Allow plants to grow naturally to help create nesting places. Leave flowers to dry so birds can find the seeds. Leave a little litter. It's good for your plants and for insect eating birds. Reduce or eliminate pesticide use and welcome beneficial bugs.



✂ GET CERTIFIED

The National Wildlife Federation certifies Backyard Wildlife Habitats. Other programs are also available. See the details below.

✂ RESOURCES & CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION: How to create a wildlife-friendly garden and how to get certified - nwf.org.

MONARCH WAYSTATION: Southwest Monarch Study and creating waystations (a place for them to rest and feed during migration) - swmonarchs.org.

AUDUBON SOCIETY:

- **Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center:** location and programs - riosalado.audubon.org.
- **Desert Rivers Audubon:** Learn about education programs and how to get Bird Habitat recognition - desertriversaudubon.org.
- **Audubon Healthy Yard Pledge:** az.audubon.org/healthy-yard.

MILLION POLLINATOR GARDEN CHALLENGE: A campaign to register gardens that support pollinators - millionpollinatorgardens.org.

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT: The Wildlife-Friendly Garden - azgfd.gov.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT: Citizen science project - provide data for researchers - gbbc.birdcount.org.

\$START \$AVING

Start saving on your water bill while doing your part for *building a sustainable community*. Visit our website for more sustainability savings tips at www.mesaaz.gov/sustainability.

Learn to live Green



mesaaz.gov/sustainability